(c) The Government has taken several steps to eliminate child marriages from the country. Such as,

* State Governments have been asked for strict implementation of Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929;

* State Governments have been asked to take necessary measures to prevdnt child marriages in their States;

* The proposal for amendment to the Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929 is presently under consideration of a Parliamentary Standing Committee which would help in better implementation of the Act;

* NHRC is also taking steps at its level to address the issue;

* A strong media campaign is being launched by the Department of Women and Child Development especially to target prevention of child marriages in the forthcoming festival season of *Akshaya Teej;*

* During 2002-03 and 2003-04, the National Commission for Women launched Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan and in 2004-05 the Commission has asked the State Governments to take steps to curb child marriages.

Reservation for women in government jobs

†2047. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is reservation for women in Government jobs in every State;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether women are being provided with employment in every State as per the prescribed percentage; if not, the persons responsible for it together with the reasons therefor; and

(d) if **so,** the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) (a) to (d) As per information available with the Government, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu have schemes of reservation for women in Government service.

Right to Education

2048. SHRIR.K.ANAND:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government aim to achieve the goal of the Right to Education, as per article 45 of Directive Principles on State Policy, which were to be achieved in 1960 and remain unrealized despite Supreme Courtjudgement in the case of Unnikrishna J.P. *versus* State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether alternative measures, such as vocational training, are being implemented for non-academically inclined students, so as to ensure that they can earn a livelihood; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI) (a) Action is being taken to draft a legislation in pursuance of the Constitution (Eighty Sixth) Amendment Act, which seeks to make "provision of free and compulsory education to children in the 6-14 years age group", a Fundamental Right.

(b) and (c) Work Education is already one of the curricular areas recommended for the upper primary stage in the National Curricular Framework for School Education, 2000. States have been requested to improve its transaction, and also to introduce training in local crafts and livelihood skills as part of work education at the Upper Primary stage in selected schools on pilot basis.

A Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education is also being implemented at the +2 level to enhance employability of those not interested in pursuing higher education.

National Institute of Open Schooling also offers vocational courses independently or in combination with academic subjects at the Secondary and Senior Secondary levels.